
Promising Practice Fact Sheet – Child-Only TANF/Kinship Care

Kinship Care TANF Program – Georgia

Program

Description: Georgia’s Kinship Care TANF Program provides supplemental financial and other supports to older or disabled caregivers.

Target Population: Older or disabled (SSI) relative caregivers.

Goal: To promote the stability of these households and the permanency of these caregiving arrangements.

Caseload Data: In SFY 2008, about 9,000 relative caregivers were receiving TANF grants (43% of the total TANF caseload of 21,000), with all of these caregivers eligible for emergency stipend and child support services described below. About 3,900 of these caregivers were 60 years or older or disabled, and they were eligible for the extra \$50 grant and for subsidized child care.

Cost: TANF funds; current cost data not available at this time but in its first year of operation (SFY 2007), the emergency stipend program was budgeted at \$73,000, the extra \$50 grants at \$282,300, and the child support services at \$61,976. These amounts have all since increased.

Evidence: Unknown

Services Overview:

The following TANF benefits were made available to relative caregivers starting in 2006:

- A one- time emergency/crisis intervention stipend for caregiver relatives to assist with expenses related to the children in their care; capped at three time the grant amount (\$465 for a single child) and available once per child;
- Child support services are available immediately to relatives when they have physical custody of their relative children (legal custody is not required);
- Relatives age 60+ or disabled qualify for a monthly allotment of \$50.00 per child in addition to the normal TANF grant of \$155 for a single child; and
- Relatives age 60+ or disabled, who are caring for a child aged zero to five are eligible for subsidized childcare/respite care for the relative children in their care.

Eligibility: Older or disabled relative caregivers receiving TANF child-only grants

Findings: Unknown

Implications for Policymakers and Program Developers to Consider:

- Program recognizes the special needs of older or disabled caregiver relatives.

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